

The China Mail.

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HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1881.

日四十月四年巳辛

Price, \$21 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. GORDON & GORDON, Ludgate Circus, E.C. DATES HENDY & Co., 4, Old Bailey, E.C. SAMUEL DRACON & Co., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—LEON DE ROSNY, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WING, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORDON, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS.—BRAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & Co., Singapore. C. HEINSEN & Co., Manila.

CHINA.—MACAO, MESSRS A. DE MELO & Co., Swatow, CAMPBELL & Co., Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLAS & Co., Foochow, HEDGE & Co., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Banks.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....£1,500,000.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

At 3 months' notice 3% per annum.
" 6 " " 4% " " "
" 12 " " 5% " " "

Current Accounts kept on Terms which may be learnt on application.

GEO. O. SCOTT,
Acting Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation,
Hongkong, September 4, 1879.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....5,000,000 Dollars.

RESERVE FUND.....1,800,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—A. McIVER, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—H. L. DAIRYMILK, Esq.

E. R. BELLIS, Esq. F. B. JOHNSON, Esq.

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W. S. YOUNG, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.

THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER.

SHANGHAI.—EVERETT CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

" 6 " " 4 per cent. " "

" 12 " " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Office of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.

Hongkong, April 19, 1881.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

(Incorporated 7th & 18th March, 1848.)

RECOGNISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF 30th APRIL, 1862.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP.....£3,200,000.

RESERVE FUND.....£800,000.

HEAD OFFICE—14, Rue de la Harpe, PARIS.

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES at:

LONDON, BOULBON, SAN FRANCISCO, MARSEILLES, BOMBAY, HONGKONG, LYONS, CALCUTTA, HANKOW, NANTES, SHANGHAI, FOOCHEW, MELBOURNE, AND SYDNEY.

LONDON BANKERS:

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

Messrs C. J. HAMBRØ & SON.

The Hongkong Agency receives Fixed Deposits on Terms to be ascertained on application, grants Drafts and Credits on all parts of the World, and transacts every description of Banking, Exchange Business.

E. SCHWEBLIN,
Agent, Hongkong.

Hongkong, April 12, 1881.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Saigon and Fuzhou.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rates of Premium current at the above mentioned Ports.

NO CHARGE FOR OUTLET FINE.

G. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, March 12, 1881.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

THE Business of GENERAL PAINTERS and BOOKBINDERS lately conducted by me, late Mr. J. J. DE SOUZA & Co. will henceforth be carried on, under the name style, by me, Underigned as Lessee of the Goodwill, Machinery, Plant, &c., belonging to the said Printing Office.

J. J. DE SOUZA.

H. LÜBECK.

Hongkong, May 9, 1881.

NOTICE.

WE have authorized Mr. LEOPOLD FLEMMING to Sign our Firm, Foochow, per Procuration, from this date.

SIEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong, May 10, 1881.

To Let.

TO LET OR TO LEASE.

THE desirable BUNGALOW known as "CHERRY," at VICTORIA GAP, with immediate Possession.

For Particulars, apply to

RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, May 7, 1881.

TO LET.

"NULLAH SIDE," FOKKOLU ROAD, lately occupied by Mr. J. M. ARMSTRONG, No. 2, Old Bailey Street. Also, No. 3, SEYMOUR TERRACE. Apply to

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, April 23, 1881.

G O D O W N S T O L E T.

PRAYA EAST AND WANCHAI ROAD.

For Particulars, apply to

SIEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong, January 21, 1881.

TO LET.

THE DWELLING HOUSE—No. 31, WELLINGTON STREET.

ROOMS IN CLUB CHAMBERS, suitable for Offices or Chambers.

THE DWELLING HOUSE—No. 3n, CAINE ROAD; Possession from 1st April.

Apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, March 26, 1881.

For Sale.

ZOE DONE MAY be Had at all the EUROPEAN STORES, and at the NAM HING LOONS, and T. Y. SING Native Stores.

Price,£2.25 & dozen Pints.

JOHN D. HUTCHISON,
Agent for Hongkong.

Hongkong, May 10, 1881.

FOR SALE.

GENUINE PORT WINE.

M. DE SOUZA GORDON'S well-known B. A. N. D. S.

Black Label with 3 grapes @ \$18 & case of 1 dozen Quarts.

White label @ \$13 & case of 1 doz. Quarts.

Apply to F. J. V. JORGE,

at Messrs RUSSELL & Co.'s.

Hongkong, May 5, 1881.

FOR SALE.

JULES MUMM & Co.'s

"HAMPAGNE,"

Quarts.....\$16 per 1 doz. Case.

Pints.....\$17 per 2 doz.

GRB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Hongkong, February 2, 1880.

NOW READY.

A COMPLETE REPRINT, in Pamphlet Form, of the proceedings in the RECENT LITTEL CASE.

REGINA V. PITMAN,

containing the whole of the trial in Criminal Sessions, with connected Correspondence and comments of the Press.

To which is now added a Report of the Case of

PITMAN V. KERWICK

and others.

Price per Copy,50 CENTS.

Orders are now being booked

China Mail Office,

Hongkong, April 13, 1881.

WASHING BOOKS.

(In English and Chinese.)

WASHERMAN'S BOOKS, for the use of Ladies and Gentlemen, can now be had at this Office.—Price, \$1 each.

CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

Intimations.

DENTAL NOTICE.

DR. ROGERS will be absent at SHANGHAI until July 1st, when he will return to Hongkong and remain permanently.

Hongkong, May 9, 1881.

Mr. Andrew Wind,

News Agent, &c.

133, NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK,

is authorized to receive Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., for the China Mail.

Hongkong, March 12, 1881.

For Sale.

KELLY & WALSH

HAVE JUST RECEIVED

SULLIVAN'S "PIRATES OF PENZANCE."

Bouquet's "China," Vol. I.

"Board of Trade Instructions for Surveyors of Ships."

Bellow's "Dictionnaire de Pouché," Moveable Anatomical ATLAS.

Richardson's "Indicator."

Donaldson's "Rough Sketching for Engineers."

Miss Bird's "Japan," 2 Vols.

Shook's "Steam Boilers."

"The Loyal Roman," Japanese Illustrations.

"Year Book Facts for 1881."

"Hongkong to Himalayas," by Clark.

Rosenthal's "Muscles and Nerves."

Lee's "Laws of Shipping," new edition.

Frouton's "Short Studies."

Marshall's "Through America."

Brewer's "Reader's Hand-book."

Matheson's "Aid Book to Engineering Enterprise."

Hongkong, May 7, 1881.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

MESSRS SAYLE & Co. respectfully beg to inform their Customers and the Public

that they have REMOVED from their Old Premises "THE VICTORIA EXCHANGE" into the Building situated nearly opposite, between Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.'s and Messrs LINSTRAD & DAVIS, and generally known as "THE CHERRY'S STORE." BUSINESS will be CONDUCTED in these Commodious PREMISES during the Re-building of the "EXCHANGE," and every attention will be given to endeavour to secure continued Patronage.

Hongkong, April 30, 1881.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

THE Yearly General MEETING of the MEMBERS of the HONGKONG CLUB will take place at the HONGKONG CLUB HOUSE on FRIDAY, the 13th Instant, at 4 o'clock p.m.

By Order,

EDWARD BEART,
Secretary.

Hongkong, May 6, 1881.

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Second DIVIDEND for the Year 1880 is now Declared, in accordance with the Resolution passed at the Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders held on the 12th ultimo, being an interim Return to contributing Shareholders of TWENTY-FIVE per cent. (25%) on the Net Premium for the above year.

By Order of the Court of Directors,

HERBERT S. MORRIS,
Secretary.

Shanghai, May 2, 1881.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANADA.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

A First BONUS of TWENTY per cent. upon Contributions and an interim Dividend of one hundred and twenty dollars per Share for the year 1880, will be payable on SATURDAY, the 14th Instant.

Warrants may be had on application at the Office of the Society on and after that date.

By Order of the Board,

N. J. EDE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, May 6, 1881.

YANGTZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Directors have declared an EXTRA DIVIDEND of SIX per cent. on SHAREHOLDERS' CAPITAL, Payable at the Office of the Secretaries on the 28th Instant to Shareholders of Record on the 21st Instant.

By Order of the Directors,

RUSSELL & Co.,
Secretaries.

Shanghai, April 18, 1881.

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

HOLDERS of the SHARE CERTIFICATES for TWO SHARES in the above Company, numbered respectively 880 and 992, the former registered in the name of CHAN SOY CHEE, and the latter in that of WOO LAM TUCK, both of Hongkong, are hereby notified that the said SHARES have been SOLD by the Court of Directors, in accordance with the Provisions of the Deed of Settlement, and the proceeds are held by the Company until satisfactory proof is furnished of the right and title of any Claimant thereto.

Any Person or Persons claiming to be so entitled are requested to communicate with the Underigned, on or before 31st May next.

HERBERT S. MORRIS,
Secretary.

Shanghai, April 30, 1881.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE.

ADVERTISMENT OF BONDS FOR THE YEAR 1880.

SHAREHOLDERS in the above Office are requested to furnish the Underigned with a List of their Contributions for the year ending 31st December 1880, in order that the DISTRIBUTION of the PROFITS Reserved for CONTRIBUTORS may be arranged. Returns not rendered prior to the 31st June next, will be adjusted by the Office, and no Claims or Alterations will be subsequently admitted.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, April 19, 1881.

LETTER WRITERS.

CHEAP NOTE PAPER and ENVELOPES.

Frouton's "English in Ireland."

Mullhall's "Progress of the World."

Analogy's "New Marine and Engineering Guide."

Allen's "Engineer's Guide."

Burgess's "Engineer's Guide."

Ross's "Cores."

Keith Johnston's "Map of World," on roller.

NEW MENU and NAME CARDS.

NEW SCRAP BOOKS.

NEW PHOTO ALBUMS.

NEW GOODS IN PLUSH:—LADIES' BAGS, WAIST BELTS, PHOTO ALBUMS, BLOTTING PAPERS, JEWEL CASES, PENSIVE CASES, &c., &c.

CIGARETTE MACHINES.

The NEW WHITEHALL STATIONERY.

Royal Ulster Linen NOTE PAPER and ENVELOPES.

Hongkong, May 7, 1881.

Intimations.

WANTED.

A PORTUGUESE BOOKKEEPER for one of the COAST PORTS.

Answers, stating qualifications, giving references and Salary expected, to be addressed at once to "A. B. C.," care of this Office.

Hongkong, May 7, 1881.

YANGTZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

IN accordance with the Articles of Agreement, the Directors have declared a DIVIDEND to POLICY-HOLDERS for the Twelve Months ending 31st December 1880, of TWENTY-TWO per cent. on the Net Premiums Contributed, Payable at the Office of the Underigned, on and after the 16th Instant.

Policy-holders are requested to send in Particulars of their Contributions.

By Order of the Directors,

RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, May 4, 1881.

Insurances.

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED, prepared to accept

First Class Risks at 1% net per annum, and other Insurances at Proportionate Rates.

Shareholders are requested that the Directors have the power of distributing a certain proportion of the accumulated profits annually among such Shareholders who have contributed business to the Company.

A. G. SAKES,
Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, May 10, 1881.

ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Underigned, as Agents of the above Companies, are prepared to issue Policies of Insurance and FIRE on approved Risks at 1% per centum annum without discount.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, May 9, 1881.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE Underigned are prepared to accept Risks upon First Class Buildings and/or their Contents at 1% net per annum, and other Insurances at Proportionate Rates. Shareholders are requested that the Directors have the power of distributing a certain proportion of the accumulated profits annually among such Shareholders who have contributed business to the Company.

Subject to a Charge of 12% for Interest on Shareholders' Capital, all the PROFITS of the Underwritten Business are annually distributed among all Contributors of Business in proportion to the Premiums paid by them.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, October 1, 1880.

THE INTERNATIONAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

OF LIVERPOOL.

THE Underigned having been appointed Agents of the above Company, are prepared to

against foreign bottoms only; but the same objection would arise here that is raised against the half dozen importers of opium, viz. that the advantage of the few can never form a satisfactory basis for any public action. Indeed, with regard to this proposal to impose some checks upon opium-smuggling from Hongkong, we may say what has been said more than once in previous articles. If it be found that Hongkong is utterly cannot get rid of the flood by Imperial action—and that, as hoped, will be definitely settled by reply to the proposed Memorandum—may then become advisable to consider the best means by which this end may be attained consonant with the freedom of the Port and the conservation of extension of its trade facilities. When the discussion of the question appears certain to be reopened by the representations to the Secretary of State, there can be no possible harm in having the views fully ventilated; and the considerations set forth in the contributed article published in another column possesses a certain importance, especially in bearing upon the general trade of the Colony. The difficulties which are being continually raised by Opium as a heavily-taxed foreign import.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The next ENGLISH MAIL may be expected to arrive here on or about Friday next, the 13th instant, by the P. & O. str. *Khaio*, which brings London dates up to April 8th.

The next AMERICAN MAIL may be expected here on or about the 19th inst., by the O. & O.'s steamer *Gadic*, which brings San Francisco dates up to the 19th April.

It has been rumoured to-day that a telegram has been received in Hongkong to the effect that H.M. Flying Squadron had arrived at Singapore, and may be expected here in the course of next week.

We learn from the Agent that the O. & O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Gadic*, with mails from San Francisco to the 19th ultimo, has arrived at Yokohama, and will leave the port for Hongkong to-morrow, the 13th instant.

THE V. W. Bro. Chater, D.D.G.M., has issued official instructions, that all Lodge and Masons within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China shall assume Masonic mourning in respect for the memory of the late District Deputy Grand Master. Mourning will be observed for a period of three months.

WITH reference to the Annual Pilgrimage to St. John's we are informed that the steamer *White Cloud* has been chartered, to-day, to convey the pilgrims, and all the arrangements for the trip are now completed. The steamer will start at 5.30 p.m. on Saturday. We have no doubt the trip will be as well conducted and successful as in former years.

HON. JAMES RUSSELL takes his seat at once as Acting Puisne Judge, having been sworn in yesterday to that office. Hon. M. S. Tennochy will continue to act as Magistrate until the appointment of Chief Justice is filled up; he performs with no pay, Mr. Russell's duties as Magistrate and Treasurer until the 9th June when the Chief Justice's leave on full pay expires.—Mr. Russell, occupying the Bench at his old salary, during the same period. The arrangement seems very convenient and sensible one in the interests of the public, completing the Supreme Court Bench as it does, and tending to greater expedition in the discharge of the work of that important Branch of the Administration than was possible with one Judge only.

At a meeting of the Trustees of St. John's Cathedral, held on the 10th instant, the following division was made of the sum of \$511.68, offertory funds which had accumulated since Christmas—

Appropriated to defray debt balance on Cathedral accounts 1880-1,	\$133.
Left over to the boxes for the doors and sundry other expenses,	27.
To the Bishop of Victoria for Missions,	100.
To the Seamen's Chaplaincy fund,	100.
For the poor,	25.
For the Diocesan Home,	50.
Further grant to Cathedral funds,	75.
	\$511.

Says the *Strait Times*—Whether the death of the Sultan of Sooloo will have any effect upon the Dent-Overbeck agreement in shape of any complication with the Spaniards, remains to be seen, but it is not probable, though possible. We feel that Baron Overbeck has no longer a connection with the affairs of the Brit. North Borneo Company, and that Alfred Dent has assumed sole charge of control. The change was recently official notice to the boxes of Brunei, and the arrangements made recognizing the change, and that the title of Maharajah of Sarawak has devolved upon Mr. Dent.

Three telegrams appear in *Strait Times* the 3rd May—

London, April 21.—The Executors of the will of Earl Beaconsfield have declined accept the public funeral offered by the Gladstones. His Lordship will be buried in his wife's vault at Highgate in accordance with a request to that effect in his will.

The Great Powers have proposed a Convention to Greece and Turkey to arrange the details of the settlement of the frontier. The Convention is to be under the auspices of the Powers.

London, April 20.—The members of the Monetary Conference have appointed Committees of Fifteen to examine 75 grants. The Committee will meet on the 23rd instant. The plenary sitting will fixed for on.

Tax Uncertainty of Adelaide (South Australia) have been Captain J. A. Herby, of the *Ugiter*, leaves with a purse of 66 sovereigns and a gold medal, on being the to bring messages presented to Captain J. A. Herby.

The Underwriters at Adelaide on the occasion of his bringing the *Uganda* safely into port after being damaged at sea. January, 1881. When in an almost helpless state he was spoken by the *Uganda*, whose Captain offered for a sum, which Captain Herberg deemed exorbitant, to tow him into Adelaide; he therefore refused assistance on such terms, and, setting to work, rigged up jury masts and other temporary appliances, and finally succeeded in reaching port without further mishap on January 3. Ship and cargo were valued at 60,000. —*Mitchell's Maritime Register.*

The navy has lost a genial and experienced officer in Commander the Hon. H. N. S. Hood, who died of confluent smallpox, contracted during a shooting excursion up the Yangtze river. But, remembering the unfortunate case of his lamented death, did not the desire to do honour to his memory overcome considerations of health in his funeral being made a public one in every sense, the coffin being followed to the grave by the officers and crews of H. M. ships *Page* and *Encounter*, and of the U. S. ships *Monocacy* and *Panama*, the volunteers, and the diplomatic and consular agents of all nations?—*World.*

The Chinese Minister-Plenipotentiary, the Marquis Tseng, is losing something generally his bed—on his travels. According to Celestial notions, it would be the worst form of profanation of the Celestial person if his Excellency condescended to sleep on the bed of a foreigner, or, worse, a barbarian. He accordingly carried with him a portable bedstead, which he left at Dover the other day, on his arrival from Paris; and on his return to Paris, a few days later, on his return to Paris. But then the Marquis Tseng is by no means as sleepy an individual as his looks indicate.—*Ibid.*

With regard to the prosecution of "Sim-kin and Co.," the conductors of this year's Umballa Sweep, we have the following late Indian telegram, to hand in the latest *Straits Times* received, giving the result of the trial:—

Umballa, April 21.—The Umballa Sweep case was tried to-day by Mr. Telford, the Deputy Commissioner, and concluded. Rivett, the principal defendant, was charged with publishing a proposal to hold a lottery. The charge against Crayden and Hine for aiding and abetting was withdrawn by Mr. Spittal, the Government Advocate. Rivett, appearing in person, admitted the charge, and the complaint, stating that he took over the business of the lottery since 1878, but nothing was said to him on the part of the Government about it till now. He took over the lottery to liquidate a debt of between 12,000 and 14,000 rupees which he owed for building the Umballa race stand. He recovered the debt from the 6 per cent. always contributed by the lottery fund to the Umballa races. He engages to have nothing more to do with this or any other lottery and to return the subscription to the Government. He undertakes to hand over about thirty thousand rupees already collected, in a lump sum to the Government with a view to the continuance of the lottery. Rivett was sentenced under section 294 A of the Penal Code to Rs. 100 fine, and a week was allowed for payment.

The smokers of opium are said to enjoy delicate visions, but the sellers of opium are said to be suffering from a different kind of vision. The controversy is reopened by the Shanghai correspondent of the *Times*, who applies an analogy in the shape of a letter a column and a half long to the uneasy conscience of John Bull. He puts the case in favour of opium, and says that the only way to get rid of the discussion is to give an opportunity to the anti-opium people, who may be ruled upon speedily to effect the opiumist's view. He labours so assiduously to create. Almost every one in China, he maintains, smokes opium, and has smoked it for centuries. John Bull, he says, has smoked his pipe, and the Scotchman takes his whisky and the Englishman his beer, and, according to this authority, it does him no more harm, if indeed it does. The habit is most inveterate in the West, where Indian opium is never used. There is an immense growth of the "bad" drug, which, however, is generally admitted to be to the Indian article what beer is to champagne, and the very streets reek with opium fumes. The objection of the Chinese Government to the importation of Indian opium, he maintains, is more fiscal and protective than humanitarian. Our consular agent at Seuchuen insists that the Chinese grow more opium in the provinces than we raise in the whole of India, and that the hostility to our opium is simply a phase of the objection of the native producers to foreign competition. As the Chinese Government does not prevent the cultivation of the poppy, it is evidently an exaggeration to saddle British India with the sole responsibility for poisoning China. But it is doubtful argument that as the Chinese insist on poisoning themselves with opium we may as well make what profit we can out of the cultivation, and the advantage of the Indian exchequer and the promotion of British trade.—*Full Mail Budget.*

Mr. Elphinstone Roe, telegraph line inspector in Western Australia, has applied, says the *Adelaide Advertiser*, for a patent in South Australia, for a system of signalling either by day or night, and the instrument or apparatus by which the work is done he calls a "necygraph." By day the signalling is effected with coloured flags, and at night by lights of two distinct colours, so arranged to form the letters of the Morse code, at present in use in the Telegraph Department. The inventor states that ships will be enabled to spell out everything they require, and that everything at present transmitted by telegraph can be sent by the "necygraph." It is said to be a very simple and cheap system, and that it will be of service to merchants living out of town and wishing to be posted in news during the night. As a scientific toy alone much amusement will be afforded by the "necygraph," as persons with only a few instruments will be enabled to chat with their friends a few miles distant at leisure; but the most important of its uses will be in lighthouses, which can each write every few seconds the initials of its own name, and thereby prevent the many accidents that have happened through mistaking one lighthouse for another. By day it will do away, Mr. Roe believes, with the whole of the present signal flag code, as only two distinct flags are required to spell everything, and printed code on a card can be supplied with each instrument. The English mail steamer, with a "necygraph" on-board, could send in passing 1,000 or 2,000 words of news, instead of as now being only reported, when passing at night, as "a large steamer supposed to be the P. and O. Orient Company's." Patents have been applied for in the other colonies and in Great Britain and America.

THE PIRATICAL ATTACK ON THE GERMAN BARQUE OCCIDENT.

By the *Namoo*, which arrived here this morning, we hear from Amoy that a Consular investigation had been held into the case of the German barque *Occident*, which was reported here a week or so ago as having signalled a passing steamer that she had been attacked by pirates. The facts of the case, as they appear to have transpired at the investigation, are briefly these. The vessel left this port on the 28th ult., and lay in the Ly-coon Pass that night, and some time after daylight on the 29th. At 9 a.m. weighed anchor and went out. In the afternoon at 3.30 the pilot left and the ship proceeded. At 7.30 p.m., two miles South of the Nine Pins, with a fair breeze, saw two Chinese junks on the same course as the ship. At 8.30 one of the junks came quite near the ship, to starboard, and interfered so much with the course that the ship was steering, that she was compelled to change her course. When requested to get clear from the ship, the junk people said they could not in consequence of the wind. Suddenly the junks steered direct to starboard, and then stink-pots and fire-crackers were thrown on board the ship from the mast-head and other parts of the junk. A Chinese sailor who was steering was wounded by a bullet in the right shoulder, but not seriously, merely a contusion. The Captain was attacked by the pirates, who had boarded the vessel to the number of between twenty and thirty. One of the pirates made a lunge at him with a spear, and when he tried to parry the blow, he was struck by and received a cut on the head from another spear. He was then driven to the fore part of the ship, and a guard placed over him; he was warned to keep quiet, and threatened with serious consequences in the event of his offering any resistance. The mate, an European, was next got hold of, and he was placed beside the Captain, and similarly threatened and warned. The piratical band then began to search the ship. They took from the Captain's cabin, a silver watch and gold chain, a telescope, and some money. They also took everything that was valuable from the cabins of the mate and boatswain. The latter, also an European, was asleep in his cabin when attacked by the pirates, who threw stink-pots into his cabin, which woke him up. Escaping by the skylight on to the deck he was at once surrounded and roughly handled, then taken by force to where the Captain and mate were and warned and threatened as they had been. From the Chinese crew on board, the robbers took everything of value. From the supercargo they took \$382 in money and his clothes. From the ship they took two lanterns and four rolls of canvas. They finally conducted the Captain back to his cabin and told him to show them where the money on board was. He assured them they had already taken all. They then warned him again that he had better be quiet and went off. On the Captain coming on deck shortly afterwards they were making off. The junks appeared to be of 1000 piculs each. The men who committed the outrage spoke Cantonese and what was described as Hongkong-Cantonese dialect. Some of them spoke English fairly well. They were better dressed than ordinary fishermen or boatmen, and all these things taken together would point, apparently, to their having served previously on board English vessels. In addressing each other and inquiring each other on to what was to be done they used the expression *Kai-tai*. There were on board the *Occident*, besides the three Europeans we have mentioned above, only seven Chinese sailors. The value of the whole property stolen does not exceed the sum of \$1000, but the attack is significant as a warning that no false sense of security should yet be allowed to arise in the minds of those who trade in these waters simply because there have not been many piracies to reward of late.

THE BLOCKADE OF HONGKONG AND THE TRANSIT PASS SYSTEM.

If the suggestion made in the concluding remarks of your leading article in the *China Mail* of the 25th April—"that the Maritime Customs be the only department for the collection of duties on Foreign Goods, and the Imports and Transit Dues the only levies on trade"—were carried out, especially in the case of opium, it would do much to further the extension of the Transit System in South-China by removing one of the gravest objections to its introduction in Kwangtung, namely, the loss to the Provincial Exchequer in the form of *li-kien* without any counterbalancing advantage. If the Provincial Treasury could be satisfied that the extension of the Pass System would not cause any great diminution in its receipts, there can be little doubt the present antagonism to the system would be withdrawn; and it would seem that the most effective way of attaining that end is the joint collection of Customs duties and *li-kien*, as contemplated in the III. Section (par. 3) of the Chefoo Agreement, by which means the exchequer would save in expenditure, by the abolition of all the opium *li-kien* bureaux in the province, what it now loses (or may hereafter lose) in *li-kien* on Foreign imports by the use of the Transit Pass. The joint collection of Customs duty and *li-kien* on opium at the Treaty Ports in Kwangtung should, therefore, be advocated, if only to lessen the antagonism to the extension of the Transit System. There are no difficulties in the way of its prompt adoption at the ports of Swatow, Hainan and Pakhoi;

Police Intelligence.

(Before H. E. Woodhouse, Esq., Police Magistrate.)

Wednesday, May 11th.

ROGUES AND VAGABONDS.

Un Afak, 39, coolie, and Fung Aop, 25, rice-pounder were convicted, as rogues and vagabonds, of gambling at fan-tan on the 10th inst., and were sentenced to seven days' imprisonment with hard labour.

DAMAGING THE PRAYA WALL.

Jan Pak Shing, 34, boatman, was fined \$1, with the alternative of one day's imprisonment, for damaging the Praya Wall at Wanchai by driving a nail between two of the stones of the wall to tie his boat to.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

Mahomed, a Bombay seaman, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and damaging property to the value of 30 cents on the 10th inst.

Defendant entered an opium divan in Cross Street, Wanchai, yesterday evening, while under the influence of drink. The master of the shop could not understand what he said, and defendant then became very violent in his behaviour and broke down two opium jars worth 30 cents.

Defendant was fined \$1, and ordered to pay 30 cents towards his costs. In default of paying fine, to be imprisoned one day, and a further term of one day in default of paying the amounts.

ROGUES AND VAGABONDS.

Lai Asam, 34, shop coolie, was charged with entering house No. 6 Heung Lane, for an unlawful purpose on the 10th inst.

Ho Asam, a married woman, residing at No. 6 Heung Lane was aroused from sleep last night between 10 and 10 o'clock by hearing some one in the next room. She called out "thief" and got up, and heard somebody running down stairs. The lock of the door in the next room was broken.

District watchman No. 6, heard the call of "thief" and saw the defendant standing at the foot of the staircase of complainant's house, and arrested him.

Nothing was missed from the house, and defendant said that he had gone into the house to see the complainant's husband, who he knew. He was convicted of being a rogue and vagabond, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

LARCENY FROM THE PERSON.

Young Aiyin, 22, barber, was convicted of stealing a silver bangle, value \$2, from the person of a child aged four years on the 11th inst. The mother of the child stated that she was in the theatre at Shaukiwan at 3 a.m. to-day, and her daughter was with her. Defendant was sitting beside her, and witness saw him take the bangle from the child's ankle and pass it through a hole in the floor to another man below.

Witness seized the defendant and gave him in charge.

Defendant was sentenced to be imprisoned for three months with hard labour, in default of payment to be imprisoned for a further term of one month with hard labour.

(Before the Hon. M. S. Tennochy, Acting Police Magistrate.)

ALLEGED LARCENY FROM THE HUNGKONG DOCK.

Wong Asan, 31, farmer, and Li Kiam, 45, domestic, were charged with stealing a quantity of hardware, the property of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. on the 10th inst.

P. C. Tang Afat, 170, met the first defendant at Hungkang carrying a bag, which was found to contain several blocks of hardware of the same value as the property of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. on the 10th inst.

The second defendant stated that the second defendant had sold him the property of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. on the 10th inst.

Li Kiam, the second defendant, said that the wood was given to him at the end of last year by a Chief Engineer, and had been in his (defendant's) possession ever since.

The case was remanded till the 13th inst.

FIGHTING AND CREATING A DISTURBANCE.

Li Tak, 22, and Cheng a Leong, 18, coolie, were charged with fighting and creating a disturbance on the Recreation Ground on the 7th inst.

From the evidence produced it appeared that the first defendant in this case had attempted to pick the pocket of the second defendant, and this had led to the disturbance.

The second defendant was subsequently discharged, and the first was ordered to enter into recognisances, with one surety in \$25, to be of good behaviour for two months, in default to be committed for fourteen days.

LARCENY OF CLOTHING.

Chun a Ng, 21, fishmonger, Leong a Sin, 30, and Lum a Sin, 35, hawkers, appeared on a charge of stealing a bundle containing one jacket and three pairs of trousers, value \$8.50, the property of Lai Hi Kiu, a fisherman, on the 10th inst.

Complainant gave evidence to the effect that yesterday afternoon the three defendants came on board his junk at Tai Kok-tso and asked to see some fish. They did not buy any as the price, they said, was too high. They then got into a scuffle to go away, and as they did so witness saw that first defendant had a bundle of clothing in his hand. Witness then found that he had lost some clothing from the junk and pursued the defendants in a boat, overtaking them at the landing place. The bundle they had taken contained clothes belonging to witness.

Complainant's evidence was corroborated by a seaman employed in his junk who assisted the complainant in catching the defendants.

The three defendants were convicted, and sentenced to be imprisoned for three months with hard labour.

RETAILING LIQUOR WITHOUT A LICENSE.

Kan Atai, 43, master of a grocery shop at Yan-ma-ti was charged with retailing liquors (samsuoh) in quantities less than two gallons without a license on the 9th inst.

Defendant admitted the charge stating that the samsuoh had been sold by a new assistant in his shop. He was fined \$25, and the samsuoh found on the premises to be forfeited.

"Wine is a man not a man" asked Jones. Of course he expected every body to give it up, and then he was going to say, "When he is a shewling. But they didn't give it up; not a bit of it. One said it was when he was fool enough to deal in conundrums; another answered that it was when he worked over jakes a thousand years old, and a third told Jones to look in the glass and see for himself. Jones said he didn't see what it was, they were drinking at, but somehow he had lost all interest in his conundrum and hadn't the heart to tell them the true answer.

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THE HOT WEATHER.

It is melancholy to reflect that now is the season when all nature smiles—at home. For the contrast between the opening spring of the Indian hot weather is dreary, indeed, and hardly to be thought of without such a pang as over waits on longings all along to talk of the hideous English winter with his red and cold to seek great solace by the bubbling brook, or watch the lambs at play; it is now that the delicious lawns tempt the air, and now even the London parks are putting on their greenery and spring flowers. It is now that people begin to talk of the hideous English winter as well past, and to arrange plans of what they will do in the summer; where they will go to the Rhine, Scotland, the sea-side—but it is also, alas! the time when the sun comes out, and the Indian weather begins to open their eyes for air, and when our pleasant acquaintances of the bygone cold weather are packing up their trunks for Simla or Ootacamund. What joy does the summer portend for us, the doomed dwellers of the plains?—punks and mosquitoes, miasmas and punks—what a weary round. How we will pine, and groan, and grumble, and think of ourselves as passing through the valley of the shadow of hotness any time during those next few dreary months, when all England will have given itself up to holiday-making, and with none to pity us—not even those more fortunate persons, who are off to the Hills or Australia for the tedious hot weather.

But are they more fortunate, after all, these people, and is their lot so much happier than that of the man who stays "to the cool and bear it out"? Truly, if there is misery in fervent heat, and sorrow in punks, there is also weariness of the flesh in sanitaria-seeking, as well as vanity and vexation of spirit in the searching and renting of cottages thereupon. We are too much of a householder to make good holiday-makers, and too well addicted to what the Turks call "kias," and the Italians *la far niente*, to anticipate anything whatever eagerly. Our friends, who go to the Hills at the beginning of this, the hot season, do so without repine, and almost without hope, so that even the slightest consolation from the fact that they are already evidently beginning to discount the boredom of their holiday, or what passes for it. Their minds, good people, are tortured with the empty houses and the furniture they must leave behind, and the expenses they are exasperated with the extortionate demands of the house-owners and hotel proprietors on the hill tops. They have sworn a hundred times a day for many days past that they wished they had never thought of moving; and they have sat on the corded terms of repatriation at railway stations and long stables. For them, too, there is fever and unrest in the evil hot days that are upon us. Like a country-dance, which is up the middle and down again, over the middle and up again—they must be ever moving. Hardly are they settled under the pine trees of Simla, or the gums of Ooty, than they must begin to think of packing up again and of the Herculean labor (in India) of moving anything, even oneself, from one distant point to another.

The hot weather, too, has its solace. It is said to be a relief to the nerves, and it abounds in the usual joys of life. Do the people, who burn their faces in the sun of the high mountains, and who toast their shins over woodfires in the gloaming of the same, ever enjoy a sensation so entrancing as the plunge in the cool water of the mountain streams? Nay, if it comes to that, is there any of their forced enjoyments of picnic or morning "call" equal to the dreary and undisturbed smoke under the punky when the rooms are darkened, the aborigines are asleep, and the hostess, even the kites and crows and the noise of the deep hush of the noon-tide glare? We may gasp at seasons, and turn apologetically to *kasbah* tactics for relief, but we are in a sense at rest. We have no "moving."

Retrospective of the prospective, to feel over; no law-suits with snarling hostesses, no pending, no dread of "breakages" to replace old lamps with new. For us obligations to society in the form of "acquaintance" at law-tentacles, or blue devils at charitable concerts, and another world of duties, have only to plead the heat to escape everything socially unpleasant, and not even Mrs. Grundy can say a word should it be our good pleasure at this season to take off our fish and to sit in our bones. Nevertheless, the thought of the more active and enjoyable life in the old country is what kills. Should we enjoy it so much if we were there? Perhaps not. Yet the odorous remembrances of the white and pink May, of the wood violets, and the recollections of the plashing waves, and the golden sands of the sea, and the thought of the old country, which we have not seen for so long, and which we can only reach, perchance, by rail, or by sea, or by the Indian Daily News.

One of the home weeklies—*Lloyd's* states that its circulation now reaches 600,000 copies, and employs 64 rolls of paper for each issue. Each roll contains ten miles of paper, so that the papers placed end to end would reach 640 miles. The newspaper is printed on 100,000 sheets, and was started in November, 1862.

The aeronauts of the Goliath balloon, which brought into Nice after their remarkable success, were too weak and suffering to give a connected narrative of their perilous adventure. One has subsequently sent an account to the journal to which he belongs. He made the ascent as a journalist, and Jovine, the captain of the balloon, was his companion. The balloon was not, he found at the ascent, sufficient ascensional force in to take up four persons.

The voyage was made in a rash spirit. Carrier pigeons were taken, but no provisions, no lantern, and important scientific instruments were forgotten. The weather proved to be unfavorable, and a mistral was coming, and it declared itself shortly after the Goliath ascended from Nice. In short time the watery clouds below it intercepted the view of the earth. The wind was due north. At an altitude of 2,200 metres the pigeons were released. The aeronauts were not aware that they were above the Mediterranean, which was marked by the white line of the Alps. They discovered where they were, and threw out ballast. For a short time they skimmed the surface of the sea. After night fall, they could see no light, and they were drifting about in great danger of not being themselves sighted. They attempted to light some paper, but it was too much soaked to ignite. A Neapolitan fisherman came up and gave chase to the balloon, and exclaimed, at great peril to the aeronauts, "When relieved of their weight, the Goliath would off, and nothing has since been heard of it."

FOREIGN SEAMEN DISCHARGED ABROAD FROM COLONIAL SHIPS.

(From the Shipping and Mercantile Gazette.)

The matter of a colonial ship at Hamburg has raised a few queries with respect to the freedom of contract between employers and employed. He hints out that vessels belonging to the Dominion of Canada, and trading to Hamburg discharge their crews, or some portion of them, at the Port by mutual consent and convenience, and he asks whether the men so paid off are to be sent to the United Kingdom, a place they have never seen, and a country which is not their home. The Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, it appears to us, meets the case. Under Section 169, all "that relates to the shipping and discharge of Seamen in foreign Ports, to leaving Seamen abroad, and to the relief of Seamen in distress," shall be applicable to all ships registered in any of Her Majesty's dominions abroad, when such ships are out of the jurisdiction of their respective Governments and to the Owners, Masters, and Crews thereof. A Canadian ship at Hamburg would be out of the jurisdiction of the Colonial Government, and consequently, the provisions of the Imperial Statute must apply to her. Section 205 of the Act is that which governs proceedings in relation to leaving Seamen abroad, and applies to "any British ship."

That clause extends to the discharge of any Seaman "at any place out of Her Majesty's dominions," the Master shall, besides paying the wages that may be due, "provide him (1) with adequate employment on board some other British ship bound to the Port in Her Majesty's dominions, or to which he was originally shipped, (2) or to such other place in the United Kingdom as is agreed upon by him, (3) or furnish the means of sending him back to such Port, (4) or provide him with a passage home, (5) or deposit with some Consul a sum of money for his expenses, as is deemed sufficient to enable him to obtain the means of his subsistence and passage home." The Master of any British ship, whether at a Port in the United Kingdom or the Colonies, must comply with one or other of these five requirements. If any Seaman belonging to a British ship is discharged or left behind at any place out of the kingdom without full compliance with the section above quoted, and is relieved, all expenses incurred for his subsistence, necessary clothing, conveyance home, and for his return to the Port of discharge, may be recovered from the Master or Owner of the ship, together with expenses and costs. It is further enacted, under Section 16 of the Merchant Shipping Amendment Act, 1855, that the power of recovering such expenses by the Board of Trade shall also extend to all charges incurred by foreign Governments on account of Seamen left abroad; and then comes the proviso which seems to meet the query propounded by our Correspondent, running thus:—"And all provisions concerning the relief of distressed Seamen, being subjects of Her Majesty, shall extend to the discharge of Seamen, not being subjects of Her Majesty, as are reduced to distress in foreign Ports by reason of their being discharged or left behind by any British ship." Whether the Seamen are British or foreign matters do not, it seems to us, depend on the kind of a foreign Port without the means of subsistence, and of returning to their homes, wherever they may be. The Act was passed with two objects—the first to protect Seamen serving in British ships, and the next to prevent Seamen from being left as paupers in foreign Ports, and thus being chargeable to the Governments. The Colonial Shipmaster puts a more pertinent question when he asks us whether, if he engages foreigners in the United States and discharges them at Hamburg, he is bound to deposit money with the Consul to pay the expenses of their passage to England. In reply to this, we would observe that if the discharged Seamen are not sent to England they must be forwarded to their own homes. It seems an anomaly that foreigners hired at one foreign Port and discharged at another should be sent to England, and be chargeable to the Consul, at the Shipmaster's expense; but, bearing in mind that the Master of a foreign ship must not leave any Seaman in a foreign Port without obtaining a license to do so, and that the license is not to be granted until the Master has paid for a passage to New York, where the men were shipped. It is doubtful whether the Consul possesses authority to send foreign men to England, and we are engaged to send them to England. The intention of the Legislature may be easily divined. Wrecked Seamen, or those left behind from inability to proceed, may be relieved at the public expense; but their discharge abroad must be at the responsibility of the Owner, in so far as relief from distress is concerned. When, however, mention is made of sending foreigners to England, the 16th Section of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, must not be lost sight of. If a native of any country in Asia, Africa, or any of the South Sea Islands, or of the Pacific Ocean, or of any country not having a Consul in the United Kingdom, is brought to the United Kingdom "in any ship, British or foreign; and is left in the United Kingdom, and within six months of his being so left becomes chargeable upon the poor-rate, or commits any act by reason whereof he is liable to be convicted as an idle and disorderly person, or any other act of vagrancy, the Master or Owner of the said ship, or, in the case of a foreign ship, the Consignee, shall incur a penalty of 30*l*.

It is just possible that some of the Seamen discharged at Hamburg, and sent to England, may be natives of the continents or islands named; and, taking it for granted that the Master of a British ship would be bound to give them a passage to this country, and might not subject himself to a penalty in consequence of their becoming paupers, it is not quite clear that these men should be sent here.

men should be sent here. The Consul, however, at a foreign Port, would not insist upon these Asiatics or Africans being sent to their homes, and, as a choice of evils, the sending them to England is the least expensive. When, therefore, Seamen are discharged from British ships abroad, most unpleasant difficulties may arise if the law is evaded.

It has been determined, instead of exposing the bodies of the dead to the Paris Morgue in a nude state, as heretofore, to exhibit them in their clothing, even to caps and bonnets, the idea being to give, as far as possible, the exact appearance

